

Message Text

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EXDIS MIL ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT NAIROBI 741 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ADDIS ABABA
DAR ES SALAAM LONDON MOGADISCIO DTD 27 JAN

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S E C R E T NAIROBI 0741

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECT TEXT PARA 2.)

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, KE, US

SUBJECT: KENYAN REQUESTS FOR U.S. MILITARY TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE
AND U.S. NAVY PORT VISITS

REF: (A) NAIROBI 199, JANUARY 8, 1975

(B) NAIROBI 10265, DECEMBER 10, 1974

(C) NAIROBI 10618, DECEMBER 20, 1974

1. WHILE I RECOGNIZE THAT POLICY PROBLEMS POSED FOR USG BY
RECENT KENYAN REQUESTS FOR U.S. MILITARY TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE

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REPORTED REFEELS CANNOT BE RESOLVED OVERNIGHT, I WOULD HOPE

THAT WE COULD GIVE GOK POSITIVE RESPONSE THIS WEEK ON AT LEAST PART OF REQUESTED MILITARY PACKAGE. THIS GESTURE WOULD INDICATE TO GOK THAT WE ARE INDEED SYMPATHETIC TO KENYAN SECURITY CONCERNS AND WOULD BE PARTICULARLY TIMELY ON EVE OF MOMBASA

VISIT NEXT WEEK (BEGINNING FEBRUARY 5) OF USS ENTERPRISE AND ACCOMPANYING SHIPS.

2. DESPITE FACT THAT ENTERPRISE VISIT WILL PROBABLY GENERATE SOME CRITICISM OF GOK BY ITS NEIGHBORS WHO OPPOSE U.S. NAVY PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN (PARTICULARLY TANZANIA), GOK HAS PROCESSED OUR REQUESTS FOR ENTERPRISE PORT AND AIRCRAFT CLEARANCES EXPEDITIOUSLY AND WITHOUT ANY COMPLAINTS OR SPECIAL CONDITIONS. IN FACT, BECAUSE ENTERPRISE IS NUCLEAR POWERED, VISIT REQUIRED PERSONAL APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT KENYATTA WHICH WAS PROMPTLY GIVEN.

3. IN SUM, I THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OUR FUTURE RELATIONS WITH KENYA, PARTICULARLY INsofar AS CONTINUED U.S. NAVY ACCESS TO PORT OF MOMBASA IS COVCERNED, TO MAKE GESTURE OF SUPPORT FOR KENYAN SECURITY NEEDS AT THIS TIME. ACCORDINGLY, I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING -- IF AT ALL POSSIBLE -- INSTRUCTIONS BY JANUARY 31 AUTHORIZING ME TO OFFER DOD VIP TOURS TO SENIOR KENYAN MILITARY OFFICERS MENTIONED REF A AND/OR TO ADVISE GOK THAT THEIR REQUEST FOR MILITARY TRAINING PER REF B HAS BEEN APPROVED. WHILE I WOULD ALSO LIKE EARLY AND FAVORABLE USG ACTION ON REF C REQUEST FO ARMS ASSISTANCE, I REALIZE THAT LATTER REQUEST RAISES DIFFICULT POLICY AND LEGAL QUESTIONS WHICH MAY REQUIRE MORE TIME TO SORT OUT.
MARSHALL UNQTE INGERSOLL

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